### Allama Azmi in the Eyes of Leaders & Critics

#### By Maulana Farogh-ul-Quadri,

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Allama Qamaruzzaman Azmi is one of the greatest scholars of the 21st Century in the Ahle Sunnah wal Jamaah. Millions of people across the Indian Sub-Continent, Middle East, Europe, America and Canada revere him and are inspired by him. His lectures attract crowds of 150,000-200,000 people regularly in the Indian sub-continent which is unthinkable in Europe and America. Most of his audiences are professionals, policy-makers, political, religious and the academic elite. He is covered by the media and press extensively and well recognised by the mainstream Sunni majority.

He is an intellectual giant who is highly revered by both leaders and critics across the world. Here are some examples:

#### His Holiness Mufti-e-Azam-e-Hind:

His Holiness Mufti-e-Azam-e-Hind Hazrat Maulana Mustafa Raza Khan (May Allah shower his mercy upon him) who was the holy son of Imam Ahmad Raza Khan Bareilvi (May Allah shower his mercy upon him) would wish to be present to listen to Allama Azmi's speech. He was so fond of Allama's speech that during Raipur's Ijtima, whilst being fragile with old age, he said to the organisers to bring him to the stage before Allama Azmi's speech so that he could listen to it. On this occasion, however, he wasn't brought on time and, therefore, was very upset that he missed Allama's speech. At another Ijtima in Jabalpur Allama Azmi cut his speech short since there were many other great scholars and speakers present, however, His Holiness asked him to continue and complete his speech.

#### His Holiness Hafiz-e-Millat:

His Holiness Hafiz-e-Millat Allama Abdul Aziz Muradabadi, Founder of Al Jamiatul Ashrafia Mubarakpur (May Allah shower his mercy upon him) was present at an Ijtima in Mubarakpur listening to Allama Sahib's speech on 'Namaaz' (Salaah). Allama Sahib spoke for

three hours leaving the audience in awe. His Holiness stood up and asked: "O people, there are many of you who like me are over the age of seventy in this audience. Can you tell me if you have ever heard a greater speech than this. The audience replied: "No". Then His Holiness said: "From this day on I award him the title of "Khateeb-e-Azam" (the Great Orator). Please note that in the audience the current Shaikh-ul-Hadith of Al-Jamiat-ul-Ashrafia, Hazrat Allama Mohammad Ahmed Misbahi was also present.

# The Great Scholars Allama Abul Wafa Faseehi Ghazipuri and Hazrat Allama Mushtaq Ahmed Nizami:

Allama Abul Wafa Faseehi Ghazipuri (who was such a great scholar of his time that people gave him the title Sahbaan-ul-Hind after the great orator of Iran) would be in awe when Allama Sahib spoke.

Another great famous scholar, Hazrat Allama Mushtaq Ahmed Nizami said: "This is the good fortune of the Ahle Sunnah wal Jamaah that a great scholar like Allama Qamaruzzaman is amongst us".

#### Ra'ees-ut-Tahrir Hazrat Allama Arshadul Qadri:

The famous Ra'ees-ut-Tahrir Hazrat Allama Arshadul Qadri said: "In the line up of Ulema there are few who have achieved greatness in both writing and oratory skills and can answer the challenges of the modern world with such mastery. He is unique in the Ahle Sunnah wal Jamaah".

#### Bahr-ul-Uloom Hazrat Allama Mufti Abdul Mannan Sahib:

Bahr-ul-Uloom Hazrat Allama Mufti Abdul Mannan Sahib wrote in one of his articles that Maulana Qamaruzzaman's greatness is such that he could prepare a speech for hours just on one or two words of Hafiz-e-Millat. In his introductory remarks at a programme at Al-Jamiat-ul-Ashrafia he said: "The most difficult subjects that can only be taught by great scholars are brought to life with ease by Allama Azmi Sahib in an inspiring and beautiful way".

# Syed Shahabuddin, Indian Foreign Services (IFS) and Leader of the Insaaf Party:

Syed Shahabuddin, the famous Indian politician after hearing Allama Sahib's speech said: "This is the first speech after one of the great founding fathers of India, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and the great orator, Maulana Azad Subhani that I have been so overwhelmed by". Please note that this programme was held in Gaya and Hazrat Maulana Syed Shah Sirajul Huda (May Allah shower his mercy upon him) and Hazrat Maulana Qamaruzzaman Gayani were present.

#### Iftikhar Arif, famour poet and writer, Pakistan:

Iftikhar Arif, the famous author, poet and Chairman of Muqtadra, Pakistan wrote in the Jang newspaper: "Qamaruzzaman is a great faqee'h, poet and writer and this is unique as the three don't come together in one".

#### Iftikhar Azmi, famous writer, India:

Iftikhar Azmi, the famous writer used to attend regularly the 'Dars' given by Allama Sahib in Bradford and in one of his articles he commented on the 'magical way' of Allama Sahib's Tafseer".

#### Professor Giyassuddin Qureshi, Newcastle University:

A famous Urdu poet and writer, Professor Giyassuddin Qureshi of Newcastle University used to attend Allama Sahib's Dars in Leeds regularly. That's where he learnt about Imam Ahmed Raza and fell so much in love that he translated the 'Salaam-e-Raza' in English poetry as well as 'Al-Daulatul Makkiya'.

## Allama Shahid Raza OBE, Chairman of the Mosques and Imams National Advisory Board:

Allama Shahid Raza OBE, Chairman of the Mosques and Imams National Advisory Board said: "Allama Azmi is not only the 'Imam' of oration admired for his public lectures which have inspired millions of young and old Muslims in the subcontinent, Middle East, Africa, Europe and North America but he is also a great Islamic Thinker of the 21st Century".

## Sahibzada Sayyid Hamid Saeed Kazmi, Cabinet Minister for Religious Affairs, Government of Pakistan:

Sahibzada Sayyid Hamid Saeed Kazmi, Cabinet Minister for Religious Affairs, Government of Pakistan wrote: "Hazrat Allama Azmi is not only the king of oration but as a thinker there is no one like him in modern day". He went on to write: "When I listen to his great speeches I feel like revisiting mine; when I hear his intellectual thoughts I feel guided; when I experience his beautiful manners I feel exposed".

#### The Times of India:

The Times of India wrote on 2nd November 2010: "There are two kinds of Sunni Muslims in the world: those who have met or heard Allama Qamaruz-zaman Azmi and those who haven't. His lucid speeches peppered with repeated references to Quranic commandments and the life of the Prophet and his companions have a charismatic effect; they go straight to the heart. Unlike many rabble-rousing parochial preachers and Islam-supremacist televangelists, Azmi uses words to calm nerves, close breaches and salve wounds".

#### Munaf Solaiman, President of the World Islamic Mission, Canada:

"Canadian Muslims from coast to coast look forward to the continued presence of Muffakir-e-Azam Allama Qamar-uz-Zaman Azmi here in Canada where he has already left a legacy which only a scholar of his magnanimity and humility can hope to achieve".

#### Taj Mohammad Qadri, Al Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt::

Taj Mohammad Qadri of Al-Azhar University, Cairo in his article on Allama Sahib's life published in the Egyptian Newspaper 'Saut-ul-Azhar' wrote: "The great contemporary thinker for Islamic issues, a great scholar of Islam, and a great orator Allama Maulana Qamaruz-zaman Azmi is known not only all over the Indian sub-continent but all over the world".

## Professor Waqar Ahmed, Chair of Nanotechnology & Advanced Manufacturing, University of Central Lancashire:

Professor Waqar Ahmed who is the Chair of Nanotechnology & Advanced Manufacturing and Head of Institute of Nanotechnology & Bioengineering as well as Leader of Nanomedicine and Nanoengineering Research Group at the University of Central Lancashire wrote:

"Allama Azmi is one of the most lucid and original thinkers of his generation. He is internationally renowned for the depth of his knowledge on all aspects of Islam. However, I have been most impressed with his interest and appreciation of science and technology and its importance in modern Islamic society. For two decades I have had the

privilege of listening to his numerous lectures and debates. His insights, guidance and love have provided the foundational pillars for my own success and happiness. His dynamic powerhouse style has inspired thousands of Muslim professionals in Manchester to live a pious life. Allama Azmi is not only a great leader but also a truly amazing and wonderful human being".

#### Jim Karygiannis M.P., House of Commons, Canada:

Jim Karygiannis M.P., House of Commons, Canada on 13th July 2002 awarded a certificate of commendation to Allama Azmi for his services and wrote:

"In my capacity as Member of Parliament it gives me great pleasure to commend the renowned Islamic scholar Maulana Qamaruz-zaman Azmi".

### Sir Iqbal Sacranie, Founding Secretary-General, The Muslim Council of Britain:

"Just before the formation of The Muslim Council of Britain (MCB), I was part of the major consultation process meeting senior leaders and scholars of the Muslim community in the UK. I had the pleasure of meeting Allama Sahib and sought his advice as one of the leading Islamic scholars in the UK. I was not only inspired but deeply impressed with his foresightedness and vision for the Muslim community in the UK. His fullest support and encouragement for the Muslim community in the UK to work together under one umbrella body was instrumental in setting up of MCB. I have valued immensely his guidance and counsel over the years."

### Mohammed Sarwar, former Member of Parliament, House of Common, UK:

"Allama Azmi is a great scholar and personality of the Muslim world. His powerful orations, depth of knowledge, grip over current affairs and deep passion for driving change for the better is exceptional. His presence in Scotland over the years has had a huge positive impact on the life of Muslim communities and is highly commendable".

